

BASE BALL, BOXING AND ALL LIVE SPORTS

THREE BALLS IN PLAY

Each Infielder Has Pill and Chases a Base Runner.

One of Most Humorous Situations Ever Witnessed on Baseball Field—Umpire Finally Straightened Things Out.

The following humorous story of the baseball field is related by Bill Speas, outfielder of the Portland team of the Pacific Coast league, and probably is one of the most humorous things witnessed on a baseball field. Incidentally, the story has been told and retold by prominent players in the two major leagues.

"You might not believe this," says Speas, "but I've got several clippings to prove it. It happened in 1906 in the Pennsylvania and Ohio league. I was playing with Mansfield, and Doc Bailey, the old-time Columbus pitcher was doing the pitching for us. Our opponents had us beaten, about 40 to 0 when one of them hit a ball and slammed it down the right field foul line. The umpire threw in another ball, and he knocked it foul again. Then he hit one at me in left, and after breaking my neck to keep it from rolling into the next state, I got it and threw it in to the plate, only it hit the grandstand instead.

"Well, in the meantime, the fielders had recovered the foul balls and the shortstop had one running a man down between second and third, and the second baseman had the other trying to catch a man between first and second. The catcher was chasing the ball I threw in. It looked like a fire in a Chinese laundry the way everybody was running around. I was almost sick from laughing out there in left field.

"The umpire eventually ruled the foul balls out of play and held that the ball I threw at the grandstand was the right one. But that does not change the fact that there were three balls in play all at one time."

WORTH OF BASEBALL PLAYER

Secretary Foster of New York Giants Says \$25,000 Is Too Much to Pay for Any Man.

Is any baseball player worth to any club an outlay of \$25,000 for one season?

This interesting question arose recently at the headquarters of the Giants in the Fifth avenue building during a discussion of what it would cost to secure the services of Home-



Secretary John B. Foster.

Run Baker, who was recently purchased by the Yankees for a sum not made public.

Secretary John B. Foster of the New York club, whose opinion can be taken as representing that of his own club and club owners in general, says that not only Frank Baker would not be worth the money, but that even Ty Cobb, the acknowledged biggest drawing card of the American league; Walter Johnson, the star pitcher of that organization; Grover Cleveland Alexander and our own Christy Mathewson would not be paying investments at an expense of \$25,000 per season individually.

League Star Is Passed.

Another former major league star who made the mistake of casting his lot with the Feds was down the line when the Chicago Cubs released Pitcher Ad Brennan to the St. Paul club of the American association. Brennan was one of the first players of any note to enlist with the outlaw movement.

Tom Martin Retires.

Tommy Martin, who has been connected with the Buffalo International league club for years as secretary, has retired and will be succeeded by James Austin. Martin may possibly accept an official position with the Boston Braves, as he and George Stallings are close associates.

HARDEST PITCHER TO MAKE HIT AGAINST



Three Famous Big League Pitchers.

Grover Alexander not only led the Major league this year as the hardest pitcher to score against, but was the hardest to make a hit against.

The great Phil chuckler held opponents to a batting average of .176. When it is taken into consideration that a good hitter is expected to bat at least .250, the tightness of Alec's work is easily realized.

Only one batter in about every six that faced Grover plinked his goods for a safe drive.

The real leading pitcher in the American league was Walter Johnson, and he was rated the king of hurlers until Alec had his big year. Johnson

was hit for .214 average. One batter in less than each five was able to hit the Washington smoke artist.

Joe Wood held opponents to a smaller number of runs than Johnson and ranks at the top of the American league, but was in a much smaller number of games, so the title of leading pitcher belongs to Johnson. Wood was touched for .216 average by opposing batters.

There is no doubt that Johnson has more speed than Alexander, but the figures also show that Johnson, who was said to be slipping last season, just because he got a few more beatings than usual, is strong.

BASEBALL STORIES

Tom Downey, who once was with the Phillies, has announced his retirement from baseball.

Stallings is out with a prediction that the Braves will win the National league pennant this year.

Jimmy O'Neill of Minooka has been sold by the Boston Americans to the Buffalo club of the International league.

This is Roy Hartzell's sixth year South with the New Yorks. "And it's going to be my best, too," said the veteran.

Bill Luyster, the former Hartford pitcher, will be field captain of the Lawrence club, under Jesse Burkett, this season.

Nick Altrock will this year, as heretofore, have practical charge of developing the recruit pitching material of the Nationals.

Joe Riggert will chase flies in center field for Mike Kelley's St. Paul team in the American Association, again this season.

Freddy Thomas, the New Orleans recruit, is said to have the edge on the other third base candidates for the Cleveland team.

E. A. Duffy, last year's premier hurler of the Youngstown club, will wear a Grand Rapids uniform in the Central league this season.

Ralph Capron, who, it is recalled, had a brief trial with the Phillies several seasons ago, has retired permanently from the diamond.

Jimmy Burke, one of Hughey Jennings' many assistants, is endeavoring to make Grover Loudermilk resort to curve balls this summer.

Marty Berghammer, the Pittsburgh Fed, who is to play with the St. Paul team next year, is a classy infielder, according to Joe Tinker.

The release by Salt Lake of the veteran pitcher, Jack Killip, probably means he is through. He was let go to make room for Tom Hughes.

One of the innovations of the new Eastern league provides for admission free—except grand stand—for ladies on all days except Saturdays and holidays.

John Bates, who played in the Richmond outfield last year after his release by the Federals of Baltimore, will be with the Baltimore Orioles this year.

Harry Damrau, the Harlem third baseman, whom Connie Mack released recently to Raleigh of the North Carolina league, will very likely get a trial with Richmond.

Bobby Veach regards J. Weldon Wyckoff as one of the six greatest pitchers he ever faced. Wyckoff wants to make 150 other batsmen think the same thing this year.

SOME OF GREAT SHORTSTOPS

Bancroft of Philadelphia Nationals Makes Fans Forget Maranville and Other Players.

So wonderful has been the showing of Dave Bancroft, both as a fielder and as a batsman, that he is now rated as one of the best in the country.

Dave is making fans forget Maranville and others. Some of the greatest shortstops the game ever knew



Dave Bancroft.

have played with the Phillies. Bob Allen was classy 25 years ago, and one year he made a record for chances accepted by a shortstop which was not broken until 1914, when Maranville made a new mark.

Then along came Monte Cross, who didn't have to doff his cap to any shortstop when he was a Quaker. Mike Doolan was the third on the list, and now comes Bancroft.

FRED TENNEY ACTS QUICKLY

Decision of Former Giant to Get Into Newark International Club Was Sudden One.

Fred Tenney's decision to buy into the Newark ball club was a sudden one, according to a New York story. Fred had gone to New York to attend the anniversary reunion. He dropped into the Waldorf and met old friends.

"Well, what's doing?" he inquired of one of them, "and how are all the old boys?"

"Well," someone remarked, "the International league is being reorganized. The Newark club looks like a good buy. I understand Jim Price is trying to get it."

"Price?" said Tenney, reflectively. "Do I know him? Wasn't he a sporting editor or writer when I was here with the Giants?" "Yes," came the answer, "he was." "Show him to me," said Tenney. "I'd like to see him."

Jim Price was sitting down at one end of Peacock Alley and Fred went down to talk to him. A day later came the announcement that the two had joined forces and bought the Newark franchise.

Passed Through Many Wars.

Bob Emalie, the veteran umpire, who will start his thirty-first year in harness this season, has been through all of the baseball wars, from the Union-Association conflict to the late Federal league affair.

UMPIRES ARE ABUSED

Standard of Sportsmanship in Baseball Is Rated Low.

In No Other Sport Is Decision of Referee Questioned as on Diamond—Fans Believe in Honesty of Players.

Is the standard of sportsmanship in baseball lower than in any other line of sport?

On the football field no player may even question the decision of referee or umpire. The captain is permitted only to inquire politely if there may not be a different interpretation of the rule. The football coach or director who openly blames an official for the loss of a game loses caste thereby in the college world. In rowing, tennis, polo, the ruling of an official is accepted gracefully even if it is felt to be wrong.

So far as recalled, no turf official ever had to be escorted from the track by a squad of police to save him from rough handling. Not since the good old days of milling in out-of-the-way places to escape police, has a boxing referee had to be defended from fists of fans who did not agree with his choice of a winner in the ring.

What would the average baseball fan think of players who surrounded a team-mate and berated him openly for making an error which cost a ball game? There was no throng of irate New Yorkers besieging the gates of Fenway park in Boston to beat up Snodgrass after the world's series game which he lost by miffing a fly ball.

The fans believe in the honesty of the players. But not one of the 16 major league umpires threatened to jump to the Federal league to boost his salary. How many ball players of today have not done that? Not one of the umpires would try to jump a contract for increased salary. How many players would not jump for more money if they could?

There are not 16 ball players in the major league today who live cleaner lives and keep themselves in better condition mentally and physically to do their work on the diamond than the 16 umpires do.

943 IS DEATH TOLL FOR SPORT DECADE

Nine hundred and forty-three persons have lost their lives in sports, indoor and outdoor, in ten years.

The highest toll was paid in baseball, in which 284 were killed. More persons take part in baseball, and it is played over a greater period than other sports. Football, with fewer persons playing and with a short season ranks second with 215 deaths.

The toll in boxing was 105, auto racing 128, horse racing 51, wrestling 15, cycling 77, tennis 1, basketball 2, golf 14, field games 3, bowling 9, polo 3, other sports 21.

CLOSER RACE IS PREDICTED

President Ban Johnson Names Six Clubs Appearing to Have Chance to Win 1916 Pennant.

"The American league race, in my opinion, will be closer than last year," says President Ban Johnson. "The Red Sox will have to play better baseball to win another pennant. The Tigers and White Sox are bound to improve, while the Browns, Yankees and Senators are expected to make a lot of trouble. Here are six teams that appear to have chances to take part in the world's series."

Johnson said that although the Athletics and Indians might start



Ban Johnson.

weak there would be a big improvement in the two teams before the season was over. He warned New York fans not to expect too much of the Yankees just because Huston and Ruppert have broken all records in spending money on players.

Tannehill Goes to Minors.

The veteran Lee Tannehill has been signed to play third base with the South Bend Central league team.

CONNIE MACK OPTIMISTIC OF ATHLETICS



Manager Mack and Some of His Best Players.

"Don't consign my team to last place," is the advice of Connie Mack. "Just because the main portion of it will be composed of youngsters doesn't mean that the 1916 Athletics will be easy to beat. I've got enough veterans to serve as the foundation for my new machine, and among my new boys are some rattling good players to replace the missing parts. So watch us closely this season. We may spring a surprise."

Connie, however, is almost alone in his belief that the Athletics will finish better than seventh or eighth. The consensus of opinion is that the outfit he will head in 1916 will be too "green" to make any real showing.

Looking over the roster of the Athletics reveals many unknowns. In keeping with his policy of other years, Connie hasn't purchased the high-priced talent from the minors. Instead he has gone into the highways and byways and picked up youths from sand lots and college diamonds.

"I am confident that out of my present lot of youngsters I can develop a few real stars," asserts Connie. May be he can. He's a genius in that way. But the chances are that the development won't reach its crest this year—that it will be along in 1917 or 1918 before the Athletic team shall become a feared one.

The Mackian outfield of 1916 will be quite veteranish, with Strunk in right, Oldring in center and Walsh in left. Oldring has been fading and isn't as good as he was in the bygone days, but Connie feels that he is far better than any of the youngsters picked up since last season. Walsh, Oldring and Strunk are good fielders, but their batting eyes seem dim.

McInnis will be on first, with the

aged Lajoie on second. Shortstop and third base, however, are Mack's big problems. He has a bunch of candidates for the positions, but none of them have shown anything marvelous. Crane, however, has the call for the shortstop job, with Healy and Ritter leading the others slightly in the battle for the honor of being the regular third baseman. Malone, who was with the Athletics last year, will continue as Lajoie's understudy.

The pitching department will be the weakest. Its make-up for regular working purposes is uncertain just now, but the tip-off is that the following five will carry the brunt of the Athletic defensive burden:

Joe Bush, a good pitcher, but not a sensational performer.

Wyckoff, who is improving right along.

Brossler, young and erratic.

Nabors, who has much to learn before he can become a star.

Meyers, who owns a good arm, but still is subject to nervousness.

Connie has a flock of other pitching youngsters, but none have shown signs so far of pushing any of the above quintet out of regular turns on the mound.

Schank will do the bulk of the backstopping, with McAvoy and Perkins, a youngster, as first aids to the injured.

If the Athletics had a great pitching staff it might carry along the patched up infield and the only ordinary outfield. Or, if the outfield and the infield were powerful both offensively and defensively, they might sweep the pitching staff through to victory. But there is too much weakness in every department of the Mackian machine for even the staunchest Athletic rooters to concede it better than seventh place in the 1916 races.

DIAMOND NOTES

Bill Killefer of the Quakers believes that his arm is rounding into shape.

Cincinnati fans mostly are pro and con for the Reds—mostly con, if the Reds lose.

There are a few Fed parks about the country that would look good planted with early potatoes.

Fielder Jones has great hopes of Bob Groom making good for the Browns the coming season.

Bob Veach has been troubled this spring with a weak ankle, sustained the first day he appeared in uniform.

Johnnie Evers says the Braves will win the 1916 flag in the National. The firecracker is not alone in this belief.

Amby McConnell, former White Sox player, has been sold by Syracuse to Utica, N. Y., which team he will manage.

Catcher Lynn may resemble Schalk in that both wear gloves, masks, shin and chest protectors.

Ray Morgan of the Senators, who is inclined to be temperamental, has convinced Manager Griffith that he will try every minute this year.

Rankin Johnson, former Red Sox pitcher, and last year with the Chiefs and Terrapins, is to pitch for Fort Worth, Tex., this year.

Connie Mack is said to have several surprises in store for the baseball fans in 1916. The leader of the Athletics may have two new men on his infield.

OUR LEADING CLUBS

Moulders of Public Opinion and Assembling Places for Citizens in This City.

The Eagle Presents Its Galaxy of the Leading Political and Social Organizations.

Following are the locations of the leading self-sustaining clubs of Chicago:

Apollo Club, 202 S. Michigan ave. Builders', 413-415 Chamber of Commerce building.

Calumet, Michigan ave. and 20th st. Caxton, Tenth floor, Fine Arts bldg. Chicago Athletic Association, 12 S. Michigan ave.

Chicago Architectural, 39 West Adams street. Chicago Automobile, 321 Plymouth court.

Chicago Club, Michigan ave. and Van Buren street. Chicago Cycling, 1615, 37 East Van Buren street.

Chicago Motor Club, 1250 South Michigan avenue. Chicago Yacht, foot of Monroe st.

City Club, 215 Plymouth court. Cliff Dwellers, 216 S. Michigan ave. Colonial Club of Chicago, 4445 Grand boulevard.

Columbia Yacht, foot of Randolph street. Elks, 174 W. Washington st.

Englewood, 6323 Harvard avenue. Edgewater Country, 5658 Winthrop avenue.

Farragut Yacht Club, foot of 33d st. Germania Maennerchor, 106 Germania place.

Hamilton, 20 S. Dearborn st. Illinois Athletic, 112 S. Michigan avenue.

Irish Fellowship Club, La Salle Hotel. Iroquois, 21 N. La Salle st.

Illinois, 113 S. Ashland boulevard. Jefferson, Dearborn ave. and Maple street.

Kenwood, Lake ave. and 47th st. Kenwood Country, Drexel boulevard and 48th street.

Mid-Day, First National Bank bldg., 17th floor. Oaks, Lake st. and Waller ave.

Press Club of Chicago, 26 North Dearborn street.

Quadrangle, Lexington avenue and 88th street.

Rotary, 38 South Dearborn st. Saddle and Cycle, Sheridan Road and Foster avenue.

South Shore Country, lake shore and 67th street.

Southern, 26 N. Dearborn street. Speedway Park Club, 140 S. Dearborn street.

Standard, Michigan ave. and 24th street. Swedish Club of Chicago, 1258 La Salle avenue.

Twentieth Century, 2246 Michigan avenue. Union League, Jackson boulevard and Federal street.

University, Michigan avenue and Monroe street.

John C. Richberg, the veteran and able lawyer, is always fighting for the advancement of his native city—Chicago.

Charles S. Thornton, the well known lawyer, has honored every office he ever filled from president of the board of education to corporation counsel.

Nicholas R. Finn, the well known lawyer, made one of the best records as alderman ever made by any member of the city council.

William Cullen Burns is making a great success at the Bar.

I. H. Stone, the popular Secretary of the Janette Manufacturing Company, of 617 W. Jackson Boulevard, reports a great demand for the Automatic Electric beer pumps manufactured by that reliable concern.

Trustee Edward Kane of the Sanitary District is one of the hardest working officials in the state. He is always alive to the public's interest.

Harry W. Cooper has built up a reputation for fair dealing that boosts the sale of the Batavia tires outside of their own good qualities.

Judge Charles A. Williams is making the excellent record on the Municipal Court bench that all his friends predicted he would make.

Judge Charles A. Williams has pleased his friends by his fine record on the Municipal bench.

Robert R. Jampolis would make a great judge.

John B. Knight of 72 West Washington street is one of the leaders in the real estate world.

A. J. Banta, the wide-awake general manager of the Locomobile Company, 2000 Michigan avenue, is popular with everybody in and out of the auto world.

R. McDonald of Clinton and Adams streets is popular with printers, manufacturers and everybody else.

The Micholob Club which meets at Ohio and Clark streets in Sauerman's splendid rooms is growing in membership and power every day.

NEW JOB FOR BRISCOE LORD

Former Athletic Outfielder and Manager of Southern League Champions, With Independents.

Bris Lord, former Athletic and Cleveland outfielder and later manager in the Southern league, where he piloted two winning teams and got his walking papers from both as thanks.



Briscoe Lord.

has signed to play in the independent Delaware County league, with the same team—Upland—with which Frank Baker played last year. Other Upland players will be Pitcher Keeley and Infielder Crothers, who were with Lord in Memphis last year.